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Message Text

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17
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SPM-01 OIC-04 DRC-01

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R 082248Z MAR 74
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3042

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E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS: AORG, UN, SPOP
SUBJECT: POPULATION COMMISSION - FOURTH REPORT

1. POPCOM MARCH 7 BEGAN DISCUSSION OF WORLD POPULATION PLAN OF ACTION, WITH REVISED UN DRAFT RECEIVING UNANIMOUS PRAISE, THE EXPERTS' REVISION LITTLE ATTENTION AND THE US DRAFT (INTRODUCED AS A CONFERENCE ROOM PAPER) SOME KIND WORDS AND A FEW BRICKBATS. A COMPROMISE STATEMENT ON CONSENSUS SUPERFICIALLY SETTLED THE EARLIER SQUABBLE ABOUT CONFERENCE VOTING.

2. INTRODUCING REVISED UN DRAFT, CARRILLO-FLORES REFINED HIS TIME TABLE, STATING THAT A THIRD DRAFT WILL BE MADE FOLLOWING THIS MEETING FOR REGIONAL CONSULTATIONS AND THE FINAL DRAFT DONE IN JUNE FOR WALDHEIM'S APPROVAL AND TRANSMISSION TO CONFERENCE. US DRAFT, EXPLAINED BY DRAPER, RECEIVED DIRECT SUPPORT FROM INDONESIA, TURKEY, AND THAILAND, SOME FROM JAPAN AND UK AND INDIRECT SUPPORT FROM INDIA AND DENMARK. WITH HIS USUAL ACERBITY SAUVY (FRANCE) EXPRESSED "TOTAL OPPOSITION", CLAIMING US BELIEVES THAT CONFERENCE DELEGATES ARE "STUPID AND MUST BE DICTATED TO". BRAZIL AND MAURITANIA ASKED US TO WITHDRAW ITS DRAFT, THE FORMER IMPLYING THAT IT "SUBVERSIVELY" APPEALS TO PEOPLE OVER THE HEADS OF "ESTABLISHED
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GOVERNMENT POLICIES" AND THE LETTER SEEING IT AS TOO

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AUTHORITATIVE. BRAZIL SAW THE UN DRAFT AS AVOIDING THE PREVIOUS CAMOUFLAGE ATTEMPT TO PUSH WORLD BIRTH CONTROL, BUT FELT IT STILL CONTAINS SOME "BRAINWASHING OF POLITICAL LEADERS" AND ANNOUNCED INTENTION OF "IMPROVING ITS BALANCE" BY REINTRODUCING SOME PARAGRAPHS FROM THE LONGER VERSION. IT NEEDS MORE SPECIFICS ON RESEARCH, HE ADDED.

3. SWEDEN DAMNING US DRAFT WITH FAINT PRAISE, PROPOSED THREE NEW PRINCIPLES STRESSING INTERDEPENDENCE AND REDISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH. INDIA, ECHOING US PLEA FOR A CONCISE, EASILY UNDER-STANDABLE DOCUMENT, SUGGESTED EXTRACTING THE ESSENTIALS IN THE FORM OF A DECLARATION TO ACCOMPANY THE PLAN AND PROPOSED A WORKING GROUP OF THE WHOLE TO MARRY VARIOUS DRAFTS. ECUADOR SAID IT DID NOT UNDERSTAND THE US DRAFT, NOR US CONCERN AT POPULATION GROWTH RATES IN VIEW OF THE US OWN EXPERIENCE THAT GROWTH PROMOTES DEVELOPMENT. THAILAND STRONGLY AND DENMARK LESS STRONGLY SUPPORTED THE US DRAFT. BOSERUP (DENMARK) PROPERLY QUARRELED WITH THE SWEDISH THESIS THAT BEST WAY TO HELD LDCS IS FOR DCS TO CUT DOWN ON USE OF RESOURCES.

4. FOLLOWING CONFUSED BUT HARMLESS COMMENTS BY ROMANIA THAT PRIORITY SHOULD BE GIVEN TO DEVELOPMENT RATHER THAN FAMILY PLANNING, UKRAINE EXPRESSED VIEW THAT UN DRAFT GOOD BUT TOO NARROW AND UNSPECIFIC. PANAMA PROPOSED A REORGANIZATION UNDER HEADINGS OF GENERAL POLICY, PURPOSES, GOALS AND ACTIONS. TURKEY LIKED THE US DRAFT EXCEPT FOR THE SPECIFIC REDUCED GROWTH TARGETS.

5. UK FAVORED US LEAD IN SEPARATING OUT RECOMMENDATIONS ON BROAD PRINCIPLES AND POLICY FROM IMPLEMENTING DEMOGRAPHIC DETAILS AND GENTLY REMINDED SECRETARIAT THAT, ALTHOUGH ECOSOC RES. GAVE SYG RESPONSIBILITY FOR PREPARING THE PLAN, POPCOM HAS THE RESPONSIBILITY TO STATE ITS VIEWS AND TO REQUEST SECRETARIAT TO REDRAFT ACCORDINGLY. SHE FELT THIS REDRAFT SHOULD THEN BE THE ONE TO PUT BEFORE THE CONFERENCE AND THERE SHOULD NOT BE ANOTHER FOLLOWING REGIONAL CONSUL-TATIONS.

6. CONFERENCE SYG CARRILLO FLORES RETURNED TO HIS THEME THAT
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RESPONSIBILITY FOR PLAN IS THE SYGS AND THAT POPCOM'S ROLE IS ONLY ADVISORY. RESPONDING TO CRITICISM FOR ELIMINATING ZPG TARGET FOR DCS, HE SAID SEVERAL EUROPEANS HAD OBJECTED TO IT.

7. RE QUESTION OF CONSENSUS VS. VOTING AT CONFERENCE, US DEL CIRCULATED OWN VERSION OF STATEMENT FOR COMMISSION'S REPORT TO EFFECT THAT IT OF COURSE DESIRABLE FOLLOW

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CUSTOMARY PRACTICE WHERE POSSIBLE OF REACHING CONSENSUS -
(IN SENSE OF GENERAL NOT UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT) BUT IF NOT
POSSIBLE TAKING VOTES. LENGTHY CONSULTATIONS WITH ROMANIA,
BRAZIL, PHILIPPINES, NETHERLANDS AND INDIA PRODUCED IN LATE
AN AGREED STATEMENT THAT "POPCOM CONSIDERS IT HIGHLY
DESIRABLE FOR CONFERENCE TO REACH DECISIONS ON BASIS OF
CONSENSUS WHICH IS UNDERSTOOD TO MEAN ACCORDING UN PRACTISE
GENERAL AGREEMENT WITHOUT VOTE BUT NOT NECESSARILY UNANIMITY."
THIS STATEMENT WILL BE ATTACHED AS ANNEX TO DRAFT RULES OF
PROCEDURE. WHEN THIS PRESENTED TO FULL POPCOM, EACH DEL BY PRE-
ARRANGEMENT ADDED ORALLY THAT OF COURSE VOTE WOULD BE TAKEN
IF CONSENSUS NOT POSSIBLE. BRAZIL SOUGHT TO PUT SLY GLOSS
ON AGREED TEXT BY ADDING THAT IT REALLY MEANT CONFERENCE
MUST DEVOTE MUCH GREATER EFFORT THAN NORMAL TO SEE THAT
CONSENSUS ACHIEVED. US REP CLAXTON SPIKED THIS BY INSISTING
WRITTEN STATEMENT BE ALLOWED TO SPEAK FOR ITSELF.
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